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From the horse's mouth

IN his testimony at a congressional hearing on President Ronald Reagan's executive order regarding domestic CIA activities, Adm. Stansfield Turner, former CIA chief, voiced three objections:

1. Allowing the CIA to move onto FBI turf is certain to create animosity between the two agencies. It is the FBI's job to deal with federal crime in America.
2. The CIA is untrained for domestic police work, and simply wouldn't know how to do it while staying within the law. Its foreign activities have always been characterized by "dirty tricks" which no respectable American court would tolerate.
3. Domestic CIA activity would endanger the liberties of American citizens, who have a per-

fect right to express disagreement with government policy. The CIA has never shown a great deal of sympathy for democratic dissent in foreign lands, and could not be expected to understand dissent in America.

It is this last point that is the most important, of course, and it is refreshing to hear the point made by a former CIA director. Indeed, we would be less frightened by Reagan's executive order if Turner were still heading the CIA.

The hearing was considered by some to be a futile exercise since the executive order is already being observed. We think it was worthwhile in that Americans were permitted to hear, from the mouth of a CIA man, that an expanded charter for the CIA may be more than the American people bargained for.